

Good morning custom applicators,

As you know, custom manure applicators must renew their certification annually. If you have not already done so, please print and send the attached form to Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets (VAAFM) – (address on form) to renew certification(s).

Per the Vermont Required Agricultural Practices, any full-time custom manure applicators need to become certified with VAAFM to operate within the State. **To become certified, custom applicators must pass the Custom Manure Applicator Exam. Below are dates, times, and locations of custom applicator review and exams (review and exam held on the same day).** The exam is 20 multiple choice questions. Certification lasts for 5 years but must be renewed annually.

Seasonal, part time, or other staff must also be trained in methods or techniques to minimize runoff to surface water when spreading manure. How you demonstrate your staff are trained is up to you. These review/exam sessions are also a great way to train staff. Alternatively, training is available online through the Vermont Custom Manure Applicator Online Training course. Go to <https://campus.extension.org/> to create your free account and take the online course. The online course is not a substitute for certification.

**Custom Manure Applicator Certification Exam dates, times, and locations:**

Location	Date	Time	Venue	Address
St. Albans	February 4th	2:30-3:30	American Legion	100 Parah Drive
Craftsbury	February 6th	2:30-3:30	Sterling College	16 Sterling Drive
St. Albans	March 12th*	1:30-3:30	American Legion	100 Parah Drive
Randolph	March 23rd	2:30-3:30	Vermont Technical College	Red Schoolhouse, 46 E. Randolph Commons
Springfield	March 25th	3:00-4:00	Hartness House	30 Orchard Street
Middlebury	TBD	TBD	TBD	

\*Part of the Farmer's Watershed Precision Agriculture Forum. If you would like to attend the Forum, please register here: <https://fwa2020precisionagforum.eventbrite.com> It is not required to attend the forum if you only wish to take the exam.

**The review and exam are free, but a \$30 certification fee is required to operate for the 2020 season. Please be prepared to pay the certification fee of \$30 at the time of the exam. Make checks payable to VAAFM. Those who attend will receive one custom applicator educational credit.**

**Please let us know you are coming.**

**RSVP to:**

**Lindsey Ruhl**

**(802) 524-6501**

**LRUHL@UVM.EDU**

If you have any questions or none of these dates work for you, please do not hesitate to contact me.